

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

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Melvin Washington,

Plaintiffs,

V.

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services – Nevada, Cambridge,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:23-cv-00910-GMN-DJA

Order

On April 10, 2024, the Court noted that Plaintiff had not accomplished service within the timeframe required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(m). (ECF No. 22). The Court noted that Plaintiff had not extended the time to serve his complaint despite the Court's prior order that Plaintiff needed to effectuate service by October 26, 2023. (*Id.*). So, the Court ordered Plaintiff to show cause on or before May 10, 2024 why the Court should not recommend dismissal of the action for Plaintiff's failure to serve his complaint on Defendant. (*Id.*).

On May 13, 2024, Plaintiff filed his response to the order to show cause. (ECF No. 23). Plaintiff explains that he has been attempting to serve Defendant, but has struggled with the process. (*Id.*). Although his response was late, the Court will not recommend dismissal of this action. But it will require that Plaintiff accomplish service within thirty days.

Plaintiff explains that he believed that, simply by filing things in this case other parties would be notified. While that is true, notification through the Court's system is not the same as the type of service required for summonses and complaints under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4. Generally, the summons and complaint must be served by personal service, not by mail and not by the Court's system. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(c)(2). Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(c)(2), the summons and complaint must be served on the defendant by a person who is at least

1 18 years old and not a party to the case. This means that Plaintiff cannot serve his own summons
2 and complaint and that Plaintiff cannot serve the summons and complaint by mail.

3 As outlined in the Court's prior order, because Plaintiff is serving the State, someone
4 other than Plaintiff must serve a copy of the summons and a copy of the complaint on: (1) the
5 Attorney General or a person designated by the Attorney General to receive service of process at
6 the Office of the Attorney General in Carson City; and (2) the person serving in the office of
7 administration head of the named public entity, or an agent designated by the administrative head
8 to receive service of process. *See* Nev. Rev. Stat. 41.031; *see* Nev. R. Civ. P. 4.2(d); *see* Fed. R.
9 Civ. P. 4(j)(2)(B) (explaining that a state may be served by serving a copy of the summons and
10 complaint in the manner prescribed by that state's law for serving a summons or like process on
11 such a defendant). After Plaintiff has accomplished service, Plaintiff must file proof of service on
12 the docket so that the Court knows Plaintiff has complied with this order.

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14 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Court finds that Plaintiff has shown cause why
15 the Court should not recommend dismissal.

16 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiff shall have until **July 29, 2024** to serve
17 Defendant. The Court will not further extend this deadline. **Failure to comply with this order**
18 **may result in a recommendation of dismissal to the district judge.**

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20 DATED: June 28, 2024

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22 DANIEL J. ALBREGTS
23 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE